

We are now preparing, next week, to take the money from the cuts and give the Nation's billionaires billions in tax relief.

These policies will hurt low- and middle-income people.

The only consistent pattern in the contract is its inconsistency.

If we really want work, let us make a way.

SEVENTY PERCENT OF PEOPLE IN AMERICA THINK TERM LIMITS IS GOOD IDEA

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, last night the House voted on term limits. I am proud of the Members on this side of the aisle and on the other side of the aisle who joined together to vote in a positive way on this constitutional amendment, 227 Members of this body, including 80 percent of the Republicans, voted "yes."

I think the press could have reported this a little more fairly. Not that we failed, because we really did not fail. If my colleagues will remember, there was a very meaningful debate on the constitutional amendment, and 80 percent of the Members on the majority side voted in favor of it. Only 70 percent of the people in this country think it is a good idea.

□ 1030

And it was first time that we have had term limits out of committee on the floor for a vote. The Constitution is a very sacred document, but there is time to amend it with term limits, and that time is coming. Even this vote should have been shown as a victory for the contract.

THE CROWN JEWEL OF THE CONTRACT?

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, every day the Gingrich gang defines themselves more and defines who they are for and who they are not. Now the Speaker says that the tax cuts that we are taking up are the crown jewel of the contract. Yes, they sure are, for the rich.

In fact, today we begin that where they are talking about even allowing the average American citizen to be able to bail out on their citizenship to save tax money. What do you think? Term limits for citizenship if you can save your tax dollars?

I find that outrageous. Of course, you see why they think that is a crown jewel.

But then you look at this other symbol—this is a diploma—one of the most important things any American family

can have for their young people. It means jobs; it means a future.

In order to get these crown jewels for the crown, you have to take money away from student loans so there will be fewer of these. That is not the America I know. I hope people wake up and find out what this is really all about. Every day I think they are getting a better clue.

REJECTING TERM LIMITS IS A BAD IDEA

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am glad the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] brought that prop of a crown because I truly believe that represents what went on in this Congress last night when we rejected term limits. We crowned ourselves that we are here for life, that we disregard the peoples' wishes and we have made ourselves potentates in a body of the people and for the people.

I came here as a grandson of Polish and Irish immigrants. My parents both worked for a living. My father was a football coach, my mother worked for an eye doctor. They instilled in me the values of hard work and citizenship. I hear repeatedly from the other side that we are taking away the safety net from the people. The net that we must provide is for the people like Kelly Largent, the 10-year-old who is on the House floor today, son of the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. LARGENT], who wants to survive in America because this is the greatest place on Earth. They do not need government handouts, they need freedom, the ability, the way to work and respect for this Nation. That is the only way we are going to get ourselves out of our deficit. That is the only way we are going to grow our way out of the poverty level, not by continued handouts.

STUDENTS AND PARENTS CANNOT AFFORD DRASTIC INCREASES IN THEIR DEBT

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority is at it again. They are now hitting the middle class with cuts in student aid to give tax breaks to the wealthy.

I visited with students and administrators from Oberlin College, Lorain County Community College, and Hiram College in my district. The message is loud and clear: Students and parents simply cannot afford drastic increases in their debt.

The Republican proposal to eliminate the Stafford Program will increase the average student debt burden up to 50 percent.

This proposal sacrifices our Nation's educational future for tax breaks for the wealthiest few. Republicans also plan to eliminate campus-based aid, such as the Perkins Program, the Federal work-study, and supplemental educational opportunity grants.

It is morally reprehensible, Mr. Speaker; the Gingrich Republicans want to cut student loans for the middle class in order to give tax breaks to the largest corporations and to America's wealthiest few.

THE SENIOR CITIZENS EQUITY ACT IS INCLUDED IN NEXT WEEK'S TAX BILL

(Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a small reminder to this House about some of the provisions in the tax bill that we are going to vote on next week.

Amid all of the white-hot rhetoric about child tax credits, capital gains tax cuts, and the rest, a lot of people seem to have forgotten that this legislation is really going to help a lot of our Nation's seniors.

The Senior Citizens Equity Act is part of this tax bill, and let me just remind my colleagues about how it is going to help them.

The bill raises the Social Security earnings limit so that older Americans who work are not penalized for making a little extra income.

It makes it easier for folks to buy long-term health care insurance, or to cash in their life insurance policies to help cope with the daunting costs when they are faced with a terminal illness.

Best of all, this bill repeals the onerous Clinton Social Security tax increase that the President rammed through this House 2 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, the fur is really going to fly when the House debates this tax cut bill. But I urge my colleagues not to forget that this bill does more than cut taxes. It helps senior citizens. And for that alone, it deserves our support.

REPUBLICANS WANT TO GIVE TAX BREAKS TO THE RICHEST 1 PERCENT

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, let me get this straight: This Contract on America, first we cut back on child nutrition programs while we give tax breaks to the richest 1 percent in this Nation, those making \$200,000 or more; now we are going to completely eliminate the tax obligation to any billionaire who wants to renounce his U.S. citizenship, but at the same time we are going to deny college loans to middle-class working kids who want to pick themselves up by their bootstraps, improve